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TODAY'S WEATHER: Light variable winds, fair with fog patches over sea. Fog becoming general tonight.
Noon Observations: Barometric pressure, 1018.5 mbs., 30.02 in. Temperature, 66.0 deg. F. Dew Point, 65 deg. F. Relative humidity, 91. Wind direction, North by East. Wind force, 9 knots. High water: 6 ft. 5 in. at 11.02 p.m. Low water: 3 ft. 3 in. at 4.47 p.m.

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VOL. IV NO. 25

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1949.

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Too Pretty To Convict



"She's too pretty to convict" said Associate City Councillor Roy A. Fish when he asked dismissal of careless driving charges against 23-year-old Jean H. Klein, St. Louis dress designer. Besides, he said, witnesses were lacking. The judge dismissed the case. The city charged Miss Klein's car rammed a fire plug at a street intersection. She claimed the car skidded on wet pavement.—AP Picture.

U.S. To Give 'Cool' Answer To Stalin Pact Offer

REASSURING SCANDINAVIA

London, Jan. 31.—America's answer to Marshal Stalin's "peace pact" offer may be discussed this week at the first full meeting between Mr. Dean Acheson, the new Secretary of State, and the five Western Union Ambassadors, diplomatic observers in Washington thought today.

They believed the reply would aim at "reassuring" the Scandinavian countries and other European nations, particularly Italy, Portugal and Eire. It would be a "cool" answer, observers thought.

Diplomatic sources said they expected the Soviet Union would continue a "peace offensive" until mid-March when, according to present plans, the North Atlantic Pact is due to be signed by the Brussels treaty powers (Britain, France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg), the United States and Canada.

Observers felt that the Soviet strategy might lead the United States and the Western Union powers to consider speeding up the alliance programme.

In Berlin, Herr Karl Schwennike, the Democratic Liberal Party leader, was quoted by the German news agency, DPD, as saying that Marshal Stalin's readiness to lift the "blockade" was explained by the "extraordinary efficiency of the airlift." Dr. Ferdinand Friedensburg, the "Western" Deputy Lord Mayor of Berlin, said the Stalin statement "shows the Soviet Union wishes, in collaboration with the Western powers, to bring to an end the unbearable situation in Berlin."

Dr. Ott Suhr, Chairman of Berlin's "Western" City Council, commented that the Soviet leader "gave no indication of guarantees for Berliners and Germans in general to let them build an independent administration for Berlin and a Federal Republic for Germany."

In Paris, a Foreign Office spokesman said the French Government attached "a certain importance" to the announcement that Marshal Stalin was prepared to meet President Truman to discuss drafting a peace pact.

It was still premature to make any comment, and it was not yet known what action the French Government would take, the spokesman added.

Moscow Radio was broadcasting Marshal Stalin's "peace" statement in all news bulletins, both domestic and foreign, today. Sometimes the statement was repeated twice in succession.

Every language on the Russian broadcast list was used.

PRESS SCEPTICISM
Many British newspapers today were sceptical of the Stalin declaration, which they contrasted with the weekend Soviet denunciation of the Western powers and her questioning of Norway on the Atlantic Pact proposals.

Some papers, while declaring that Marshal Stalin's words could not be taken at their face value, urged the Western powers to make the most of them to secure a working agreement with Russia.

The Manchester Guardian said: "Stalin holds that Germany is the key to the 'cold war' and the defeat of the Western Union, and he is preparing to concentrate on it."

"In this sense, his statement is aimed quite as much at the confusion of German opinion as of American, British or French."

The Conservative Yorkshire Post commented: "For all its clamour, the Russian action may be offering us a chance of that showdown for which Mr. Churchill asked some weeks ago."

"It may be the last chance to stop a drift towards a disastrous conflict. Declaring that the Soviet leaders were now studying the papers, and a Liberal News Chronicle said: 'The fact remains that Marshal Stalin's overtures to the West (for such they are) cannot be laughed off or cavalierly rejected.'"

The Conservative Daily Mail stated that in Germany "Russia wants to share in the recovery which she has done her utmost to prevent. Nevertheless, if there is the slightest hope of reaching a settlement in Germany, it should be explored to the utmost."

DIPLOMATS CAUTIOUS
Lake Success, Jan. 31.—The Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Trygve Lie, when asked tonight whether he would consider offering Lake Success as a "mutually acceptable" meeting place for President Truman and Marshal Stalin, said he would consider the matter and might make a statement tomorrow.

However, Marshal Stalin's latest move in the so-called "peace offensive" has been received with great caution by diplomats here. High officials of the United Nations declined to comment on it.

The move confirms statements by sources close to the Soviet delegation in Paris last November when they predicted that such an "offensive" would soon be launched in the West.

The political leaders of the Anglo-American Zone in Germany decided today that Marshal Stalin's declaration contained nothing to deny the preparations for a West German State.

Bizonal Minister Presidents, gathered in Frankfurt to meet the British and American Military Governors, agreed to ask for a formal Allied decision whether the present Bonn Constituent Assembly was competent to draw up the electoral law for the first Parliament of the new State.

Their question implied, in the words of a prominent Socialist leader, "that they see no reason to regard the Stalin interview as creating a new situation for their work."—Reuter.

Willing To Meet Stalin In Washington

Washington, Jan. 31.—President Truman was willing to see Marshal Stalin provided the meeting was held in Washington, a White House spokesman said today.

Mr. Charles Ross, the Presidential Secretary, told a press conference that there was no comment from the President on Generalissimo Stalin's statement yesterday.

He was then asked if the President's position regarding such a meeting had changed. Mr. Ross said that the last official word he had received on the subject was the President's statement to a recent press conference that he was willing to see Marshal Stalin any time he came to Washington.

Mr. Ross said there had been no official message from the Soviet Government regarding a meeting.—Reuter.

Tear Bombs Thrown At Mosley

London, Jan. 31.—Tear gas bombs were thrown into the audience when Sir Oswald Mosley, former leader of the British Union of Fascists, addressed a meeting of his Union Movement in London tonight.

About 100 people were affected and left the hall. Thirty were treated in an emergency hospital in the basement of the building.

The meeting was held in the town hall of Kensington, a prosperous London borough, and in his address Sir Oswald said it was the first time the Movement had been allowed such a meeting place.

He introduced three Union candidates to contest South Kensington in the London County Council elections in April.—Reuter.

TWO TRAIN CRASHES

81 PERSONS HURT

London, Jan. 31.—Eighty-one persons were hurt in two train crashes in Scotland and England.

Seventy-six persons were injured at Glasgow when a shipyard workers' train ploughed into the rear of a train standing at the station. All were taken to hospital but only two were held for treatment.

At East Horndon near London five persons were cut by flying glass when the door of a train going in one direction flew open and smashed the windows of a train passing in the opposite direction.—United Press.

NO RED PROBE IN BRITAIN

London, Jan. 31.—The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, today rejected a suggestion in the House of Commons that he should set up an independent Royal Commission on the lines of the Un-American Activities Committee of the United States Congress.

Sir Waldron Smithers, Conservative, had wanted a Commission to "report on the extent and nature of Communist organisations and their subversive activities in Britain."—Reuter.

Dutch Will Not Comply With Indonesia Peace Plan

Lake Success, Jan. 31.—The Dutch have refused to comply "at this time" with the new United Nations Security Council peace plan for Indonesia, according to information reaching United Nations Headquarters.

Reports from the Commission for Indonesia in Batavia said the Netherlands authorities were awaiting instructions from the Hague concerning the Security Council resolution approved on Friday, which called on the Dutch to free all Indonesian Republican leaders in captivity, recognise the authority of the new and strengthened Commission in the Indies and make precise and gradual moves toward giving the new United States of Indonesia sovereignty by the middle of 1950.

Dispatches to the United Nations reported that two more Indonesian officials had been imprisoned by the Dutch, allegedly for creating unrest among the population.

In passing the new plan, the Security Council made no provision for forceful steps to make either the Dutch or the Indonesians comply in the event of refusal to do so.—United Press.

Li Tsung-Jen's Peace Mission Ready To Leave

NATIONALIST SPOKESMAN'S WARNING TO REDS

Shanghai, Feb. 1.—The new five-man people's peace delegation, appointed by President Li Tsung-jen during his brief visit here yesterday, were preparing today to start on their mission to contact the Chinese Communists in North China, according to Chinese reports.

The new delegation consists of Dr. W. W. Yen, a veteran diplomat and civil leader, Mr. Chang Hsu-chow, a lawyer and educationalist, Mr. Ling Yu-chiu, a civic and industrial leader, Mr. Kiang Yun, lawyer, and Mr. K. T. Chen, chairman of the Trustees of the Bank of China.

The delegation, it is believed, will act as President Li's personal representatives and will co-ordinate their efforts with those of the four-man official delegation headed by Mr. Shao Li-tze and General Chang Chih-chung.

Meanwhile, the China Press reported that the former Japanese Commander-in-Chief in China, General Yasutsugu Okamura, who was recently acquitted by a Chinese military tribunal and now wanted by the Communists, is on his way back to Japan.—Reuter.

DEMANDS REJECTED
Nanking, Feb. 1.—A Nationalist spokesman warned the Communists last night that if they persisted in irrelevant issues during the peace overtures it would be impossible to meet their demands and come to terms.

The spokesman rejected three points in the two-day old Communist broadcast seeking punishment for the released former Japanese Commander-in-Chief in China, General Yasutsugu Okamura, who had been accused of war crimes, the imprisonment of 47 Nationalist leaders on the war criminals list, and the "complete liberation" of Peiping.

The spokesman said the three points should not be a conditional precedent to the actual opening of the peace talks. He urged "the Reds to reconsider their position so that the hostilities might be brought to an end."

He said it was true that the Reds in the past few months had won a number of victories but they should realise that this might not continue for long and decidedly would not determine the final outcome of the conflict.

In order to settle China's internal dispute through political means, it was necessary to preserve mutual respect, and mutually to make concessions.

The Nationalists earnestly hoped that the Communist Party would utilise the utmost sincerity to help speed up the convening of a peace conference.—Reuter-AAP.

CHANGE OF HEART NEEDED
Hankow, Feb. 1.—General Pao Chung-hsi, the Nationalist Central China Commander-in-Chief, last night told a mass gathering of Hankow's most prominent civil leaders and businessmen that the peace overtures with the Communists would fail unless the Reds manifested a change of heart.

Other speakers radically departed from the recent spate of conciliatory appeals to the Communists for peace in China by attacking the Communist Party for their insincerity and breach of faith.

CALM RECEPTION
Peiping received the conquerors with calm and curiosity. Various students and workers organisations lined the roads with squads bearing great and colourful banners and shouting slogans, but this has not been the reflection of the general populace who demonstrated the same reserve with which they had greeted six previous conquering waves in the last 40 years.

Plainclothes political workers accompanied the Red troops and have been busy passing up notices, urging the populace to remain calm and go about business as usual without fear and trouble.

Nationalist news censors were no longer on duty and no Communist censors have yet made an appearance.

Various soldiers said they had orders not to talk to foreigners but it was understood that the orders would be relaxed as soon as the occupation process was completed.—United Press.

Bunche Offers Israeli & Egypt New Secret Peace Plan

Rhodes, Jan. 31.—The acting Palestine Mediator, Dr. Ralph Bunche, handed to the Israeli and Egyptian delegates today a new peace plan—still secret—prepared yesterday and during the night by him. The plan is said to contain a compromise proposal to fix armistice lines in the Negev desert of Southern Palestine.

An Israeli source told Reuter he thought the negotiations would be over by next Friday. The Israeli delegation is to meet Dr. Bunche tonight to present their corrections and amendments to his proposals. The Egyptians are said to be awaiting new instructions from Cairo. They are believed to regard the plan less favourably than the Israelis.

Dr. Bunche told reporters that the documents he had given both delegations had "several working papers designed to facilitate and expedite agreement."

An Israeli courier took the documents to Tel-Aviv for instructions from the Jewish Premier, Mr. David Ben Gurion.

It was hoped that if there were no setbacks concerning the new plan, both delegations would be invited by the Mediator to draft a joint agreement tonight or tomorrow.

(In Amman, the capital of Transjordan, it was expected that Dr. Bunche would invite Transjordan, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq to take part in the peace negotiations.

These States are likely to object to the talks being held in Rhodes but it is thought that any invitation from Dr. Bunche to negotiate would be accepted.

Jerusalem—Reuter reports that the Jews have indicated that they would not join in consultation talks with the Arabs there because the United Nations had granted the Arabs £6,250 to improve a road connecting the Arab-held Old City of Jerusalem with the former Government House.

(The Government House is the headquarters of the Conciliation Commission and the Arabs had said they would not negotiate without a road. The Jews said the area around Government House was demilitarised and neutral territory, and they were not consulted about the money allocation.

(The road-making violated the status quo agreement, they said).

COMPROMISE PROPOSAL
A United Nations source stated that Dr. Bunche's document, still officially secret, is a compromise proposal for the delineation of armistice lines. It covers the main controversial points, including Afula, an important road junction southeast of Beerseba captured by the Israelis during the last phase of the fighting around Beerseba itself.

Dr. Bunche said: "The delegations are now studying the papers, and a meeting will be resumed when they are ready with their views and reactions."

Dr. Bunche disclosed that Colonel Ismail Sherin, of the Egyptian delegation, has left for Cairo for consultations with his Government.

The reactions to the new document will determine the success or failure of the conference. Both parties attached great importance to the armistice lines, which affect future boundaries.—Reuter.

FULL RECOGNITION
Washington, Jan. 31.—President Truman gave full recognition to the Governments of Israel and Transjordan today. The White House made separate announcements of de jure recognition for each Government. Full recognition means that the United States will appoint envoys to both countries.

Mr. James MacDonnell, special representative to Israel, may be the first United States Ambassador to Israel.

The United States was the first country to give de facto recognition to Israel on May 14, 1948—the day the new State was proclaimed.

An American representative in Transjordan has been confined hitherto to a Consulate General in Jerusalem covering both Israel and Transjordan. Transjordan has no direct representation in Washington.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

The Stalin Questionnaire

GENERALISSIMO Stalin has replied to a questionnaire submitted by the American International News Agency which was couched in such remarkable phraseology as to suggest it had been framed by the Kremlin. Throughout there appears to be an endeavour to give the impression that the United States is a suppliant for special favours and that the Kremlin is willing to give qualified consideration. On this score alone the questionnaire and the replies given thereto are open to suspicion, for there has been nothing in recent United States foreign policy vis-a-vis Russia and the international situation to give the Kremlin the slightest notion that America feels it incumbent to make obsequious to the Soviet Republic in resolving current problems which have largely been created by Russia. Note, for example, question 3, which asks if the governments of the United States, Britain and France agree to postpone creation of a separate Western German Government, pending a meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers to consider the German problem as a whole, would the Government of the USSR be prepared to lift the restrictions on communications between Berlin and the Western Zones of Germany? Now a question on this subject couched in such terms is wholly inconsistent with the expressed attitude of the Western Powers regarding the Berlin blockade, and cannot, therefore, be considered a serious approach to this special problem. It is, of course, typical of the Soviet technique—the effort to force the Western

Powers into a false bargaining position to enable the Kremlin to win for itself political and diplomatic victories. The question dealing with the restoration of communications between the Soviet and Western German zones is the crux of the question, inasmuch that the future peace of Germany and the rest of Europe can be said to hinge on the settlement of this long-standing dispute. But there will need to be rather more evidence of good faith on the part of the Soviets than Stalin's vague declaration if the whole problem of Germany's future is to be amicably and permanently solved. The Iron curtain was lowered, not by the Western Powers, but by Russia, and it is Russia who must raise it to enable herself and the wartime allies the opportunity of frank but peaceful relations. Stalin's offer to outlaw war and to reach a mutual pact of general disarmament throughout the world could constitute a vital move towards the end of the cold war, but it will have to be followed up on the part of the Kremlin with a more concrete sign of a genuine desire to achieve this end. Russia has so often displayed bad faith in the councils of the nations during the past three years that it is difficult now to accept on face value the good intentions of the Soviet Republic. Wherefore, if Stalin really means what he says in reply to the AIS questionnaire, he will proceed immediately to confirm his attitude through the usual diplomatic channels. Such a gesture would command the respect and attention of the Western Powers.

WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



FULL DRESS DINNER—Dressed—as always—in formal dinner attire, these penguins in the London Zoological Gardens lift their beaks in preparation for a few tasty titbits from their keeper.



BARNYARD PLUM-AGE—New York model Midge Ware takes a "gander" at a white China goose whose feathers are the same as those of her spring hat of poultry feathers.



ARAB MOTHER—An Arab woman comforts her hungry son while awaiting milk distribution by the UN International Children's Emergency Fund. Over 700,000 Palestinian refugees are quartered in an improvised tent city in Lebanon.



COUPLE OF OLD HANDS—Little Billy Scholz checks his watch with the veteran George Johnson before a run on the Illinois Central out of Chicago. Four-year-old Billy hasn't had quite the 49 years' experience of the elder engineer but time will tell.



WINTER'S MAGIC—The fine hand of nature's artistry produced this enchanting wonderland in the famous Bois De Boulogne in Paris. The picturesque waterfall was transformed by the chilly winter weather.



PLAYTIME DRESS—Cyd Charisse wears a winter play dress for lounging around the yard—in California. The angora sweater is just a precaution at her Hollywood home as she poses in comfortable shorts.



RAIL—HERO—Jimmy Colclough, 11-year-old Canastota, New York, lad, examines a model of the De Witt Clinton at New York Central's office. Presented with numerous gifts and promised a job on the line in future years, the youngster discovered a broken rail and told railway officials in time to avert an accident.



WHAT ARE YOU CRYING ABOUT?—Little John Ostrand can't quite see why Peter Hermann is crying when he is the one with a coveted bottle of milk. Both foreign-born dependants of American servicemen, they recently flew to New York to begin a new life.



SUPPLY DUMP—A Dutch soldier relaxes as an informal guard is placed over this temporary supply depot near Indonesia. His companion, rear, is checking on snipers as mop-up operations continue against scattered resistance.



NICE ANGLE—Leo Garee, 16, Queen of the Anglers, casts her line as she prepares for her role as reigning monarch during the Metropolitan Miami Fishing Tournament.

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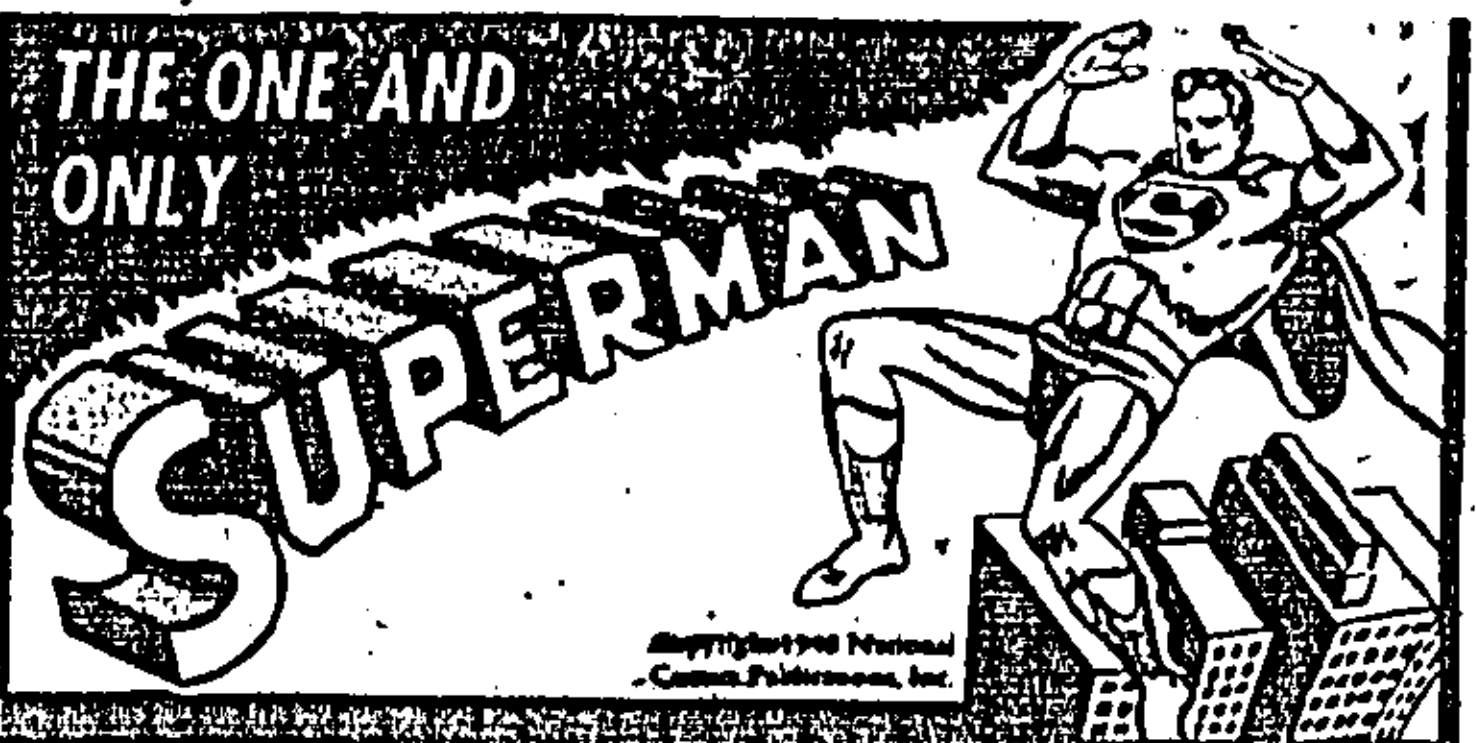
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A COLUMBIA PICTURE

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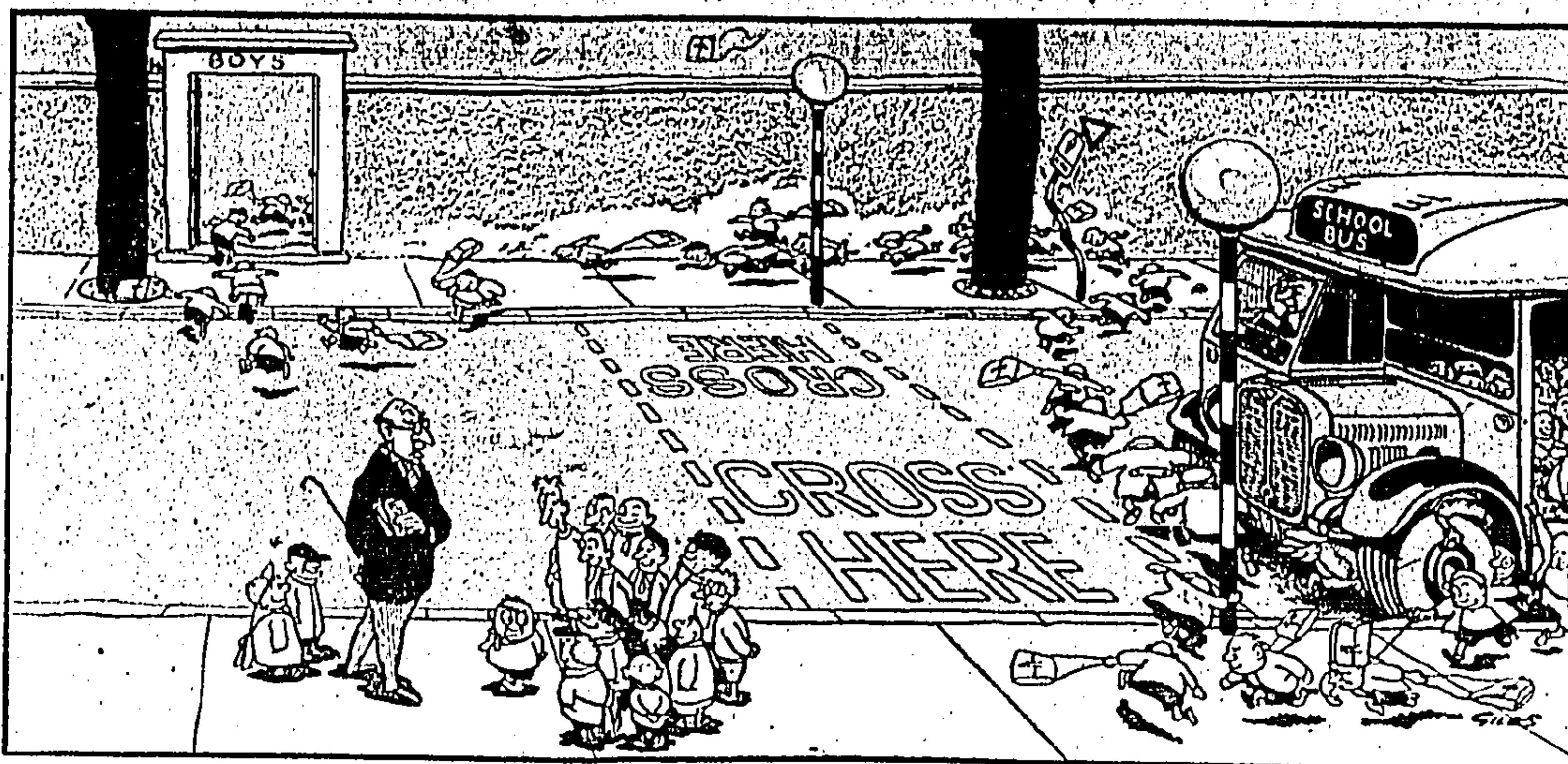
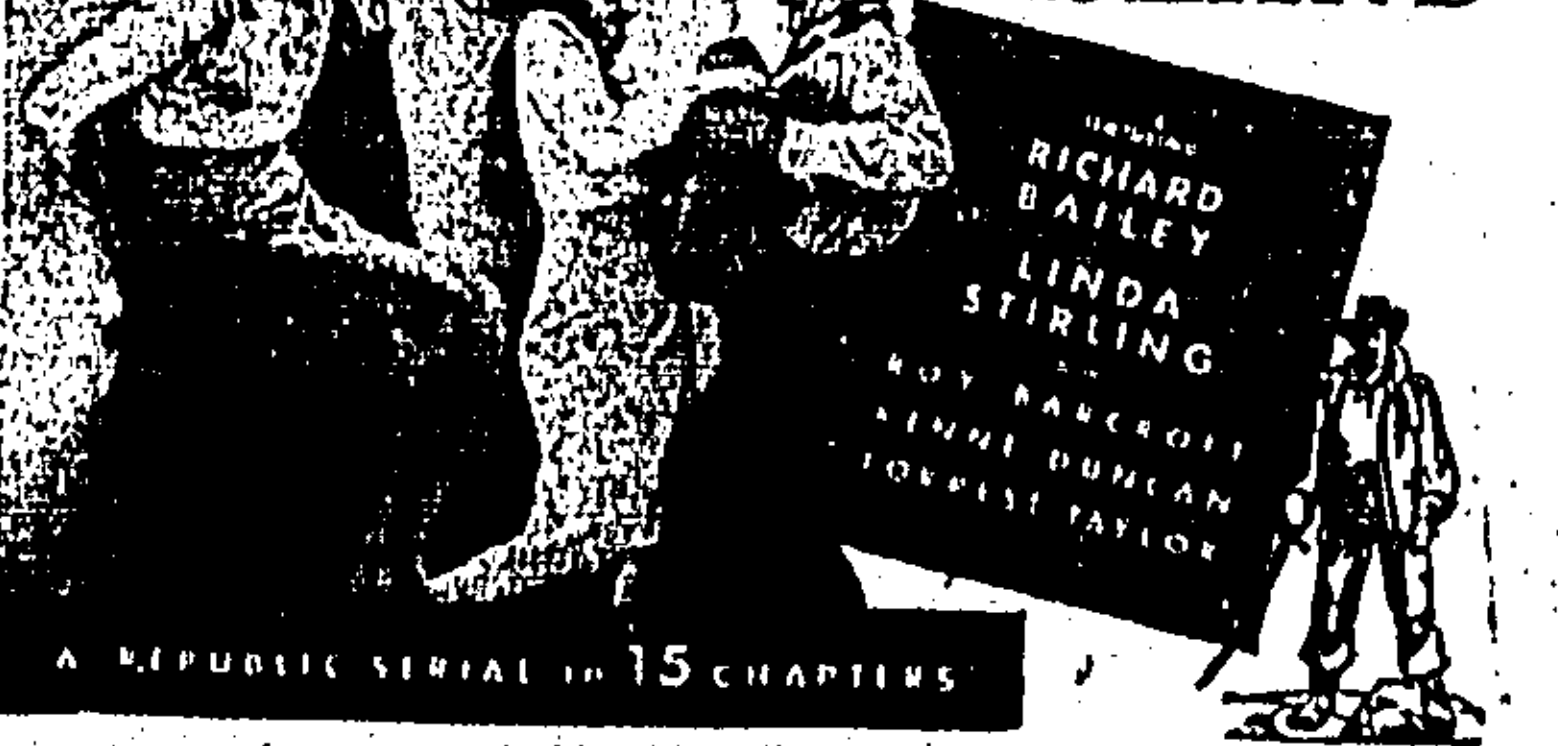
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FIRST EPISODE

What sinister forces are
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MANHUNT OF
MYSTERY
ISLAND



"Evidently the international situation and the effects of our foreign policy automatically take second place to photographs of the Folies Bergere in your distorted little mind."

HOW RED ARE CHINA'S REDS?

By WALTER BRIGGS



Mao Tse-tung: Will he prove a
Gottwald or a Tito?

HOW red are China's Reds? Chinese Communists are not merely agrarian reformers. They believe in Marxism, and want to practise it in their country. They boast of that. But is the Chinese Communist Party just another stooge of Moscow's? Is Mao Tse-tung, their chief, another Pauker or Gottwald?

As all signs point to Red victory over the Nationalists, these questions no longer are academic. They assume prime importance, because the part a new Chinese government might take in power-politics will affect the world much more for years to come—than any internal experiments it may try in economics and social order.

"I don't care what the Communists do here," one experienced foreign observer told me. "What counts is how they react to Russia and the United States."

Contradictions

In recent months the Communist radio has placed Mao squarely in the Comintern camp. He has attacked Tito for deviations in Yugoslavia, commiserated with Togliatti over the attack on that Italian leader's life, cabled Stalin congratulations on the 31st anniversary of the October Revolution, sent felicitations to the World Federation of Democratic Women—a Red front—meeting in Budapest.

Yet Mao has practised in China the same deviations that got Tito into trouble with the Kremlin. He has supported Chinese nationalism. He has censored tyrannising the middle classes in an attempt to win their support.

Observers regarded as significant a recent Red radio broadcast running over three nights. Written by a Communist intellectual, it applauded the Soviet Union and attacked the Western "imperialists." But also it went to some length denouncing Chinese nationalism and party practices.

In the light of this and other similar evidence, observers deduce that Mao is trying to ride two horses at once. He is playing with Russia to get all the support he can. But he wants China to remain free—and for Chinese Communism to develop in its own way.

Mao rose to power in Chinese Communism not because of, but in spite of, Russia. He went into South China in the '20s to organise local soviets, even though Russian Communists and their traces were being eradicated in the rest of the country.

During that period a feud developed between Mao and Li Li-san, another prominent Communist, over methods of Communism in China. Li fled to Russia, and returned years later with Russian troops marching into Manchuria after VJ Day.

Now Li is building himself into a power in China's northeast. And he is definitely a Stalin man—a Communist internationalist.

Putting himself in Mao's shoes, many observers believe that he is human enough to harbour his hatred for Li and to dislike the international control that Li represents. Old-line Communists are mostly nationalistic, observers say, while the youngsters are more inclined towards international Communism—towards Moscow. The old guard built their own domestic Communism with little Russian help. They probably feel that, having done well enough so far, they need no meddling from here on.

Many Quarrels

Among the old leaders, the sanest and most western in outlook is Chou En-lai, who is generally considered to rank second or third to Mao himself.

Dealings with the outside world once they assume power, many feel, may affect the outlook of top Communist leaders. In their isolation

they have been fed heavy doses of Moscow propaganda, have been bombed by American-made planes, and have not been hesitant about expressing their approval of Russia and their dislike for the United States.

But historically the Chinese never have had any love for Russia. The size and potential importance of each of these great neighbours have led to many quarrels, and to an underlying tone of jealousy and suspicion. In the open market-place of world affairs, this tradition might have considerable effect on the slant that they will take.

And when the choice has to be made, one other factor in the background might prove very influential. The Chinese people, as a whole, like the United States, leader of the western bloc.

His "angels" (who discard their legal names for ones like "Love Nut," "Bunch of Love," or "Love, Love, Love") voluntarily turn over their outside earnings to Father Divine's "churches."

Others work directly for him without payment. They receive free board and lodging.

His "children" (those who do not believe enough to surrender all their money) are accommodated at the "heavens" for 12s. 6d. a week.

Earthly possessions (like family, life savings, cars and jewellery, furniture and insurance policies) must be surrendered to his "church," too, if followers want to come to the fold "clean."

"MY angels never grow old," he explained, "nor do they die. So they have no need of such things." Should a case of someone dying come to notice, his explanation is simple. "They lost faith."

"How does it feel to be God?" I asked. "Personally, I am small, and insignificant in stature," he replied, in his slow Georgia drawl. "People look upon me as 'that little man' and think I am illiterate. But I would like them to know I am omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent."

DURING the interview—which took place in his office—Father Divine sat attended by eight of his



Chou En-lai: Will his influence
favour the West?

They have been fed heavy doses of Moscow propaganda, have been bombed by American-made planes, and have not been hesitant about expressing their approval of Russia and their dislike for the United States.

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C.V.R. Thompson THIS BRITTLE YEAR

New York:
TWO unofficial pollsters claim to have discovered why Americans are grabbing every book they can find with a title like "The Conquest of Fear," "How to Stop Worrying," or "Don't be Afraid."

Fascinated by these signs of a national neurosis, two psychologists, doctors Henry Link and Albert Freiberg, decided to give up their spare time to take a poll.

They picked 5,000 New Yorkers at random and asked them what was worrying them. The result—Americans are worried and mentally ragged.

Their chief concern is that the great U.S. boom will soon end in a bust (49.5 percent).

Next on the list is Communism (44.1 percent).

And towards the bottom of the list are the threat of war (only 10.6 percent), and the Russians (1.6 percent).

FOR ALL THE PARTIES in Washington during inauguration week President Truman, once a haberdasher, bought himself a new evening dress tie. It was black, but had a silver stripe through it.

IN ST. LOUIS, at least, the age of chivalry is not dead. Among the defendants in a traffic court one was a beautiful, 23-year-old blonde, Jenn Klein. The charge against her was careless driving.

Said Prosecutor Roy Fish: "We cannot prosecute a beautiful girl like this in our court, and besides, we have no witnesses."

JURORS' FEES are being doubled in New Jersey because jurors complain they have to pay more for baby-sitters than they get for jury-sitting.

WASHINGTON confirmed today that even in America dollars are getting scarcer. If all the dollars now in circulation were divided equally, each American would have 100 dollars and 80 cents, or about £47 12s. That is a drop of nearly £2 5s. on last year's figure.

MAKING THE MOST of California's freak cold spell, Florida, California's chief rival, is flooding the country with pictures of semi-nudes enjoying her balmy 80-degree climate.

Back came Hollywood with a picture of a bathing girl playing with snow. What Hollywood did not reveal: The sunshine which made her smile came from studio lights.

20 secretaries. (They work in shifts, reporting every word he utters for publication in his newspaper. 3d. a copy—and fat with advertising.) Chief of them warned me "not to ask so many mortal questions; and don't write of him as 'e-g-g-r-o,' spelling out the word."

Mrs Divine sat alone. "Did she ever want to go home to the parents she renounced, and a normal existence?" I inquired.

"Not at all," she said, looking nervously at her husband. "I asked Father Divine to marry me, preventing the Church I am wedded to God Almighty, thus he has legally fulfilled the Scriptures. He does not permit us earthly affections. I am in heaven, where I belong."

"America right now is a Sodom and Gomorrah," Father Divine declared. "I will save it because I am incorruptible and undefiled."

"HOW many followers are there now?" I asked. "I have no records," he replied. "God's blessings cannot be counted."

But as recently as May 1948 news reports told of a gathering of 5,000 white disciples in Switzerland, and of nearly a dozen Swiss villages with their own "heavens." Followers are claimed in Calcutta, Australia, New Zealand, Panama and the West Indies.

"I could change everyone's lives if they would let me," said Father Divine as the women from London fervently nodded. "I will emancipate your country from Socialism if its people contact me, and if they do I will answer from this station. Tell them I can do anything. My spirit even released the atom bomb. 'Some food? Well, you know, I couldn't promise.'"

Chicken and ice cream at 4 a.m. in this neon-lighted heaven

By EVELYN WEBBER

NEW YORK.

FOUR London women are in America as followers of Father Divine, the negro who they believe is God. "And many more who are still in London follow him, too," they told me. "He saved us all from the buzz-bombs."

Known by the name of George Baker to those who do not think he is God, Father Divine has never denied his followers' belief that he is 1000 years old, or that he arrived on earth in a cloud of smoke.

I met the five-foot Father Divine and "Sweet Angel," his 23-year-old white bride, in the cellar of one of his neon-lighted Philadelphia "Heavens."

The occasion was one of their five-a-day banquets.

THE man who says he is God does not look the 70 at which non-believers fix his age. But he is bald, and plump, and shiny with good living.

His milk-coated blonde wife, 6 ft. former Montreal typist Edna Rose Hitchens, towers over him. She is Father Divine's second wife; she fell in love with him when a minor and waited until she reached 21 for the wedding.

His first wife, a negress to whom he was married for 20 years, he says "has disappeared. But she appears my new wedding because it is entirely spiritual."

WITH the London women, 350 hysterical white and negro followers, had waited all night for Father Divine to come.

THE men were free. And despite the hour, the hostess helped themselves abundantly to chicken, fish, roast beef, ten other meats, eight "vegetables," rice macaroni, five breads, two gravies, three sauces, eleven kinds of cake, six ice-creams, doughnuts, toothpicks, salt and pepper.

As they ate the rafters quivered with their praise. Some followers writhed and twitched and emitted squeals. One girl jumped up and shrieked, "Father, you are so sweet, thank you, father, dear." Another kept yelling, "Peace."

While they testified that they had been saved from "drink and bad habits," Mother Divine calmly went on chewing. Father Divine's head nodded. And his eyes slowly closed.

"But he isn't asleep," insisted a henchman. "God never sleeps."

NANCY

'Art and 'Art



By Ernie Bushmiller



Western United States Hit By Cold Spell

Chicago, Jan. 31.—The Western States staggered today from the battering of one of the worst winters in history. Housewives will probably feel the full effects eventually in food supplies and costs. Some of the effects, strangely, may be beneficial.

An extended series of storms, starting the day after New Year, hit South California, lashed through the coastal and Rocky Mountain ranges and swept 1,100 miles across the meat locker and bread basket States.

Crowds Hold Up Trial Of German Red

Duesseldorf, Jan. 31.—Judgment will be given here tomorrow in the trial of the German Communist leader, Herr Max Reimann, which provoked excited demonstrations outside the court today.

He is charged with "encouraging discrimination against persons who have aided or may aid the Military Government of the Allied Forces."

German mounted police today broke up street demonstrations when crowds singing the Internationale temporarily halted the trial. Reimann was surrounded by two or three hundred people carrying banners inscribed: "Down with the Ruhr Statute" and "Liberty of Speech" when he left the courtroom.

Reimann's trial had been twice deferred. The prosecutor quoted Reimann as saying that German politicians who were prepared to work under the Ruhr Statute should not be surprised if they were regarded as quislings and the day would come when they would have to count on reprisals.

Two German journalists said Reimann made the first statement but could not confirm that he had threatened reprisals. The prosecution then agreed to drop that part of the charge.

When Reimann gave evidence on his own behalf this afternoon, the magistrate rebuked him for making a political speech. His British counsel, Mr. Dudley Collard, objected that Reimann was trying to justify his use of the word "quisling."

Reimann went on: "I made my speech attacking the German politicians because I am convinced that German politicians under the Ruhr Statute and the occupation statute will establish a Government which will split Germany."

"The German people want a republic for the whole of Germany—a democratic republic and a Central German Government. They do not want a West German Government, but they want a peace treaty."—Reuter.

Acquitted On War Crimes Charge

Leeuwarden, Holland, Jan. 31.—Joseph Schneider, former chief of the German counter-espionage in Holland, was acquitted on a war crimes charge here today and immediately re-arrested on the court's order to be deported as an undesirable alien.

The court decided it was not proved that he had ordered the execution of 14 Dutchmen in April 1945, as a reprisal for alleged sabotage at Drontje, a village near Leeuwarden.

He was also acquitted on a charge of being a member of the German security police.—Reuter.

Conservative estimates indicated that the storms left more than 2,500,000 animals imperilled by food shortages. A check of officials in 12 States showed that storms to date have cost 70 lives, lost in fighting blizzards, in storm accidents and by freezing. Estimated overall losses to date are US\$150,000,000.

The storms also killed an estimated 110,000 cattle and 134,000 sheep, in addition to endangering 2,725,000 cattle and 2,825,000 sheep valued at an estimated \$421,160,000. Heavy snow covers many areas and the Stokeman, national stock newspaper, estimated that 1,000,000 head of cattle and sheep would be found dead in Wyoming, Colorado and the Dakotas.

Crop losses are estimated at \$108,000,000, property damage at \$1,073,000, railway damage and revenue losses at \$50,000,000, and wages lost at \$1,000,000.

At the great storms swept across the plains, snow bank piled on snow bank, humans froze to death. Hundreds of cattle and sheep died in their tracks and were buried in the snow. Some died alongside their ice-filled troughs.

Entire cities were snowbound. Hard-packed drifts as high as 40 feet blocked rescue workers in Nebraska.

The weather had warmed a bit yesterday, but another cold wave and storm are moving in from Canada.—United Press.

Winter Strikes Southern U.S.

New York, Jan. 31.—Snow, sleet and freezing rain in the southern United States today caused 17 deaths. In Kentucky, four people died in accidents and five in fires blamed on overheated furnaces.

In Arkansas, two people died in flood and two through the cold. Louisiana and Tennessee each reported a traffic death.

The bodies of an elderly Negro couple were found frozen in a flooded cotton field near Charleston, Missouri.—Reuter.

Conference On Building

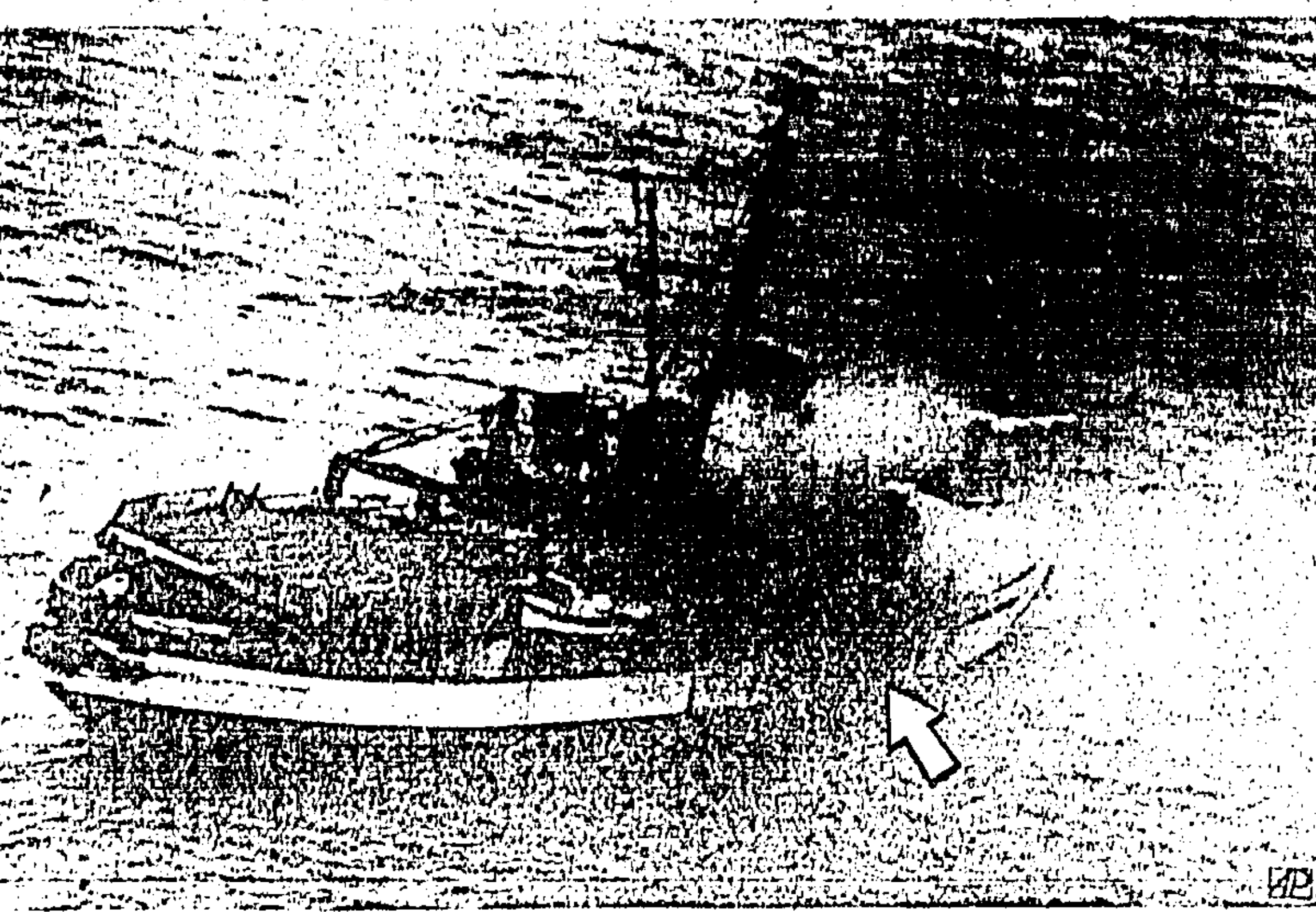
Geneva, Jan. 31.—Housing experts from Eastern and Western European countries and the United States meet here today to try to modernize Europe's building industry.

The experts were faced by an estimate made by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe that it will take nearly 40 years to provide adequate housing for Europeans at the present rate of building.

The Economic Commission also reported that the building industry was making a slower recovery from the war than any other major European industry.

The countries represented at the meeting are: Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Greece, Britain and the United States.—Reuter.

Crippled Coastguard Icebreaker



Smoke pours from amid-ship of the Coastguard icebreaker Eastwind off Cape May, N.J., after a collision with a tanker, the ss Gulfstream. Ten Coast Guardsmen were killed and 19 others injured. Arrow points to the gaping hole in the side of the Coast Guard ship which is listing after the accident.—AP Picture.

Compromise Sought On Overfishing

Washington, Jan. 31.—A reliable source said today that the Spanish, Portuguese and French delegations to the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Conference were trying to find some compromise between the United States draft convention and the Norwegian, Danish and British viewpoints.

The source said every effort would be made to form some type of international commission with scientific and investigating powers to try to establish whether overfishing existed in the Northwest Atlantic areas, and if so what sort of regulations should be recommended.

Probably up to five years might be proposed for the commission's work, and then a further conference would have to be held in the event of the commission considering regulations necessary.

The United States delegation has asserted that there is overfishing on George's Bank, off the New England Coast, but there is no evidence of it in other Northwest Atlantic areas.

Some Scandinavian delegates are not convinced that the present scarcity of fishing on George's Bank is due to overfishing and point out it might be due to other causes, which should also be studied.—United Press.

Anglo-Swiss Trade Talks To Continue

London, Jan. 31.—The Anglo-Swiss trade and financial talks, originally expected to end today, will continue for another week, it was learned here from an authoritative source today.

The main difficulty facing the two delegations is to fit the allowances for British tourists to Switzerland into Switzerland's total payments balance with the sterling area.

The British delegates are apparently making a pretty low estimate of the amount Britain herself will earn in visible trade with Switzerland in 1949.

Competition from German exporters, who can undersell Britain, has caused a drop in British exports to Switzerland, and officials apparently believe this decrease has come to stay.

The Treasury will only allow a certain proportion of Britain's Swiss franc earnings to be used for tourists. During the 1948 negotiations, it was estimated that Britain would be able to spare £5,000,000 for this purpose during the year.

It is understood that the Swiss delegation has asked for a larger amount to be released for tourists in 1949, while British officials are not even sure that last year's total can be repeated.

Much hard bargaining is expected during the coming week, but usually well informed sources were not today prepared to predict the outcome.—Reuter.

Royal Couple To Tour Lancashire

London, Jan. 31.—Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh will tour Lancashire on March 29 and 30, visiting Manchester, Liverpool and Preston. It was announced from Buckingham Palace today.

On February 28 they will attend their first function together in London this year—a preview of the Ideal Homes Exhibition at Olympia. On May 3 the Princess and the Duke will visit the British Industries Fair at Earl's Court, Birmingham.—Reuter.

Kravchenko Admits Using False Names

BRITISH M.P. MAY BE CALLED BY DEFENCE IN LIBEL SUIT

Paris, Jan. 31.—Victor Kravchenko, Russian-born author of the anti-Soviet best seller, "I Chose Freedom," said in court today that he had used ten or fifteen different names "to protect himself from his enemies."

He is suing the French Communist literary weekly *Les Lettres Francaises* for libel damages of three million francs for saying that he was not literate enough to write a book, that he was a liar, a traitor and an habitual drunkard.

When Maître Nordmann, Counsel for the weekly, asked today if he knew a Paul Nedrin, the plaintiff smiled and said: "Yes and no." He said that he had often changed his name, had used 15 already and might have to use another 10.

People in court applauded when Kravchenko, in reply to a request for his identity papers, said: "I am not in the Soviet Union where you need a pile of documents. I am in free France."

The judge rebuked the applauding public and expelled one man from the court.

Maître Nordmann alleged that Kravchenko had received "extraordinary privileges" from the American Departments of State, Finance, Justice and Police.

The Counsel said that without their aid, Kravchenko could not have obtained an exit permit from the United States and a French entry visa under the false name of Paul Nedrin.

One of Kravchenko's witnesses, a stout middle-aged Russian woman from a displaced persons camp in Germany, burst into tears when telling how she lost her farm in Russia in 1930 under the collectivization of farms programme.

She said that all her clothing, furniture and cattle were confiscated and she was turned out into the snow although she was pregnant.

When she sought refuge with a village neighbour, she said, a drunken Russian official pestered her in her bedroom. She said that she could not return to Russia, as she would be classified as a Kulak (rich peasant class liquidated by the Soviet Government in 1930).

After several more witnesses, the Council for the defence said that he hoped to be able to call tomorrow Mr. Zillicus, the British Labour Member of Parliament.

The hearing was adjourned until tomorrow.—Reuter.

Israeli Flag Hoisted In London.

London, Jan. 31.—Thousands of Jews cheered and clapped in London's West-End today as 17-year-old Ruth Liebstadter, a telephone switchboard girl, hoisted the blue and white flag of Israel above the Israeli Government offices.

The raising of the flag proclaimed the Israel Government's recognition by Britain.

Long before the ceremony was due to take place Jews from all over London flocked to Manchester Square which lies just behind Oxford Street, one of the West-End's main shopping centres.

It was a seething, excited crowd. Some groups danced. Others played.

The cheering was led by a young man with long fair hair. Waving a newspaper, he led the crowd in cries of "Long Live the State of Israel. Long Live the Prime Minister of Israel."

The ceremony itself was simple but impressive. A hush fell on the crowd when the Sefiorah, the Jewish symbol of law, was brought on to the balcony.

The Rev. J. K. Goldbloom said a blessing. The flag was then unfurled and the whole crowd broke into the singing of the Jewish National Anthem.

There was a common phrase on most lips—"It is good to be alive to see this."

After the ceremony the carnival atmosphere remained in Manchester Square, with hundreds staying to dance the "Hora"—the traditional dance of the Hebrew pioneers.

The ceremony was presided over by Mr. J. Linton, the Israeli acting representative and Consul General. There were no speeches.—Reuter.

Ulster Premier's Election Plank

Belfast, Jan. 31.—Thirty-two out of the 52 seats in the Northern Ireland House of Commons will be contested at the general election on February 10.

Stomies today gave unopposed returns to 14 Unionists, two Nationalists and two Irish Labour candidates. For 28, seats in Belfast and the counties there are 28 Unionist candidates, 15 Nationalists, nine Labour, three Independent Labour, one Independent Unionist and one Communist.

Sir Basil Brooke, the Premier and Unionist leader, who has made the election issue: "King or Republic", aims at increasing his majority to demonstrate that Northern Ireland will not leave the United Kingdom to join the new Eire Republic.

The Nationalist Party, aided by funds collected in Eire, is making its greatest anti-partition campaign. By placing 17 candidates in the field, it is creating a record.—Reuter.

Kowloon Tar Fire

Shortly after 8 o'clock this morning an appliance under Sub-Officer Wu Man-chiu, of the Kowloon Fire Brigade, was despatched to Tok-yawan, in the Hunghom district, where a small quantity of tar had become ignited in King's Street. The flames were soon extinguished and the engine returned to the Terminus Station shortly after 8.40.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

It's M-G-M's Tune-swept, Hula-happy TECHNICOLOR Musical!

Plus **LAWFORD**
Jimmy **DURANTE**
Kaiser **CUGAT** AND HIS ORCHESTRA
Ester **WILLIAMS**
Records **MONTALBAN**
Cyd **CHARISSE**
TECHNICOLOR!

ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU

PLEASE BOOK YOUR SEATS EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT. PRICES AS USUAL!

SHOWING TO-DAY

KING'S

SHOWING TO-DAY

AT 2.15, 4.45, 7.15, & 9.45, P.M.

WHOLE NEW WORLD...

OF ADVENTURE AND ROMANCE LAY BEFORE HIS SWORD!

CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE
by Tyrone Power
TYRONE POWER
KEAN PETERS - CESAR ROMERO - JOHN SUTTON
LEE L. COBB - ANITA MARENGO - THOMAS COOPER
HENRY KING - LAMAR TROTTI

AT ROADSHOW PRICES

SHOWING TO-DAY

Cathay

At 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

Shapes Up MARVELOUSLY!

SOMETHING for the BOYS
MIRANDA O'SHEA BLAINE
PHIL SILVER - PERCY GORD - GLEN LARSEN
SHEILA BIAN - PERCY GORD - GLEN LARSEN
Directed by ALFRED STYLER
Music by J. J. MURPHY

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"I was sort of engaged to him last summer, but when he fell for that dizzy sophomore and her convertible, I couldn't stand him!"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

Smother Play Wins Small Slam Here

By WILLIAM E. McKENNEY

THIS is the last of five articles on the fascinating but difficult smother play.

It is the most difficult of all bridge plays to recognize because you usually have lost the timing on the hand before you realize that a smother play is possible. To get the full benefit of today's hand, you should lay the cards out, because it is one of the more complicated smother plays.

On the opening lead of the six of clubs, East played the ten-spot and declared. West with the ace, his next play was the queen of hearts and West correctly put on the three-spot. Declarer let it ride. Even when East showed out he was not too much worried, as he still hoped for a spade break.

The deuce of hearts was led, and when West played the four-spot, dummy's eight was finessed. Now

Hand Diagram:

North: ♠ A Q 4 3, ♥ 7, ♦ A 10 9 8, ♣ 10 7 6 5 4 3 2

South: ♠ 10 8 5, ♥ K 5 4 3, ♦ Q 10 7, ♣ 6 2

Declarer's Play:

♠ A 10 9 8, ♥ 7, ♦ A 10 9 8, ♣ 10 7 6 5 4 3 2

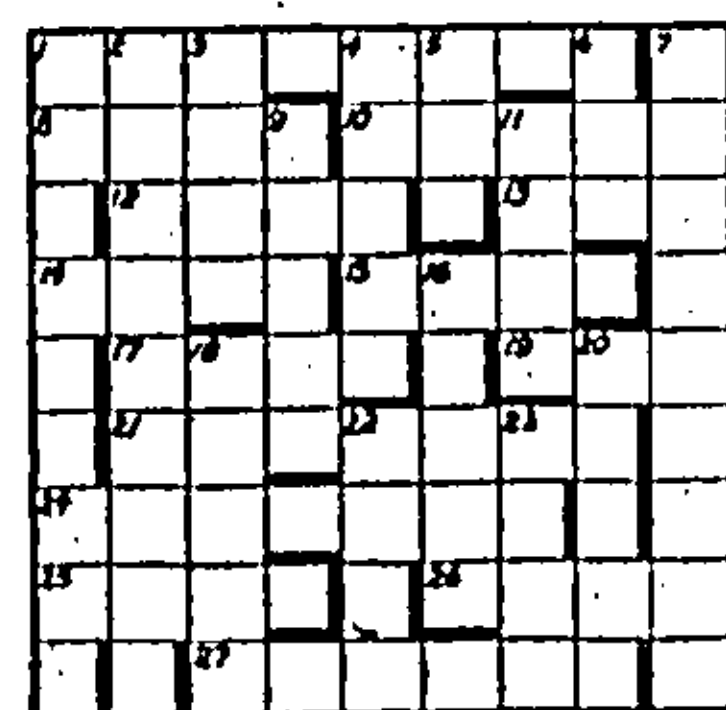
Opening: ♠ 6

the king of spades was cashed and a low spade led to declarer's ace. South knew then that the spade suit did not break, so he had to resort to another play to make the contract.

He ruffed his losing club in dummy, leaving dummy with the blank ace of trumps and West with the king and five-spot. It looked as if West was sure to make the king of trumps. A diamond was led from dummy, won with the king, and a diamond returned to dummy's ace. A third diamond was ruffed by declarer, and a small spade led to dummy's queen.

At this point declarer led back dummy's last diamond. East played the jack and declarer discarded his losing spade, leaving himself with the jack and ten of hearts. East had only the king and queen of clubs. When he returned one of them, South trumped with the ten of hearts, and West was smothered out of his king. If he undertrumped with the five, dummy's four of spades would be discarded. If he overtrumped with the king, declarer would trump with the ace in dummy and ruff the four of spades with the jack of hearts.

CROSSWORD



- Across
- 1 and 5. Shows when baby had eat.
 10. (10)
 11. May be a mollusk or a portable lunch. Take your choice.
 12. Noticed during any fly evening.
 13. 14. Smoke.
 15. Travel that has got out of order but is not an anagram.
 16. Let it stand.
 17. From respect or fear?
 18. Any way today to a road.
 19. (19)
 20. (20)
 21. (21)
 22. (22)
- Down
1. Clear rate for a change.
 2. A torn robe.
 3. Father—I am come to say my peace amongst you.
 4. A staff officer sports more than one.
 5. Dr. Watson must have been tired of hearing a word like this.
 6. To a sudden it's natural.
 7. Hindu mythology gave us these serpents.
 8. More make them but do not as a rule occupy them.
 9. (9)
 10. (10)
 11. (11)
 12. (12)
 13. (13)
 14. (14)
 15. (15)
 16. (16)
 17. (17)
 18. (18)
 19. (19)
 20. (20)
 21. (21)
 22. (22)

Solution of yesterday's puzzle. Across: 1. 10. Come; 11. Paint; 12. Fly; 13. 14. Smoke; 15. Travel; 16. Let it stand; 17. From respect or fear; 18. Any way today to a road; 19. (19); 20. (20); 21. (21); 22. (22). Down: 1. Clear rate for a change; 2. A torn robe; 3. Father—I am come to say my peace amongst you; 4. A staff officer sports more than one; 5. Dr. Watson must have been tired of hearing a word like this; 6. To a sudden it's natural; 7. Hindu mythology gave us these serpents; 8. More make them but do not as a rule occupy them; 9. (9); 10. (10); 11. (11); 12. (12); 13. (13); 14. (14); 15. (15); 16. (16); 17. (17); 18. (18); 19. (19); 20. (20); 21. (21); 22. (22).



Check Your Knowledge

1. What is vanadium?
2. Name the sea that separates Java from Borneo.
3. What is considered to be the most popular of George Eliot's novels?
4. What are cultured pearls?
5. Name the bird that is used by the Chinese and Japanese to catch fish.
6. Of the known supplies and reserves what continent is richest in coal deposits?

(Answers in Column 3)

BOYS AND GIRLS MAGAZINE

Mr. Punch's Friend the Owl

—He Knew Just About Everything—

By MAX TRELL

"ARE owls really wise birds?" Knarf, the shadow-boy with the turned-about name, asked Mr. Punch.

Mr. Punch, who was stretched out in his easy chair with his eyes closed, opened them with a start. "What?" he said.

Knarf repeated the question. "Oh, are owls really wise? H'mmm... I should say they are," Mr. Punch finally answered. He was fully awake now. "There's nobody wiser than an owl, especially an old owl. The older they are, the wiser they get. Once, long ago, when I was a boy, I was very friendly with an old owl named Whoozis."

"Whoozis?" said Knarf.

In Hollow Tree

Mr. Punch nodded. "Whoozis lived in a hollow tree at the back of our garden. I knew he was wise because he answered every question I ever asked him. And he gave the right answers, too."

"What did you ask Whoozis?" Knarf wanted to know.

"Well," said Mr. Punch, "one rainy day I went to Whoozis in his hollow tree. He was sitting there quite comfortably, and as dry as toast. 'Whoozis,' I said, 'I wonder if you could tell me how long it's going to keep on raining?'"

"And did he answer that question, Mr. Punch?"

"He certainly did. He said: 'It's going to keep on raining until it stops, and not one moment longer.' It was the best answer I had ever heard about rain."

SCIENCE AT WORK:

RADIATION EXPERIMENTS MADE ON POTATOES

BY PAUL F. ELLIS

A POTATO patch that may lead to a variety greater in yield and resistant to bugs is growing here almost within the shadow of America's first postwar atomic energy pile.

The plants in the patch are ordinary potatoes in one way; in another way, they are not.

Dr. Leslie F. Nims, head of the biology department of Brookhaven National Laboratory, explained that the potatoes are ordinary in that they were selected from the common garden variety. The difference, however, is that they were X-rayed before planting. A super potato may be the ultimate result.

The plantings were divided into lots with some receiving more radiation than others. Purpose of the experiment is to determine the effect of radiation on plants.

The plants growing from heavily X-rayed seeds, however, and in one particular row only one plant came up. Comparisons are made with two rows of plants grown from non-X-rayed seeds.

The new instrument is known as the proton beam. The dusters report that experiments indicate that the instrument has "vast potentialities in the field of inhalational therapy—the treatment of chest ailments by the breathing of drugs, such as penicillin dust."

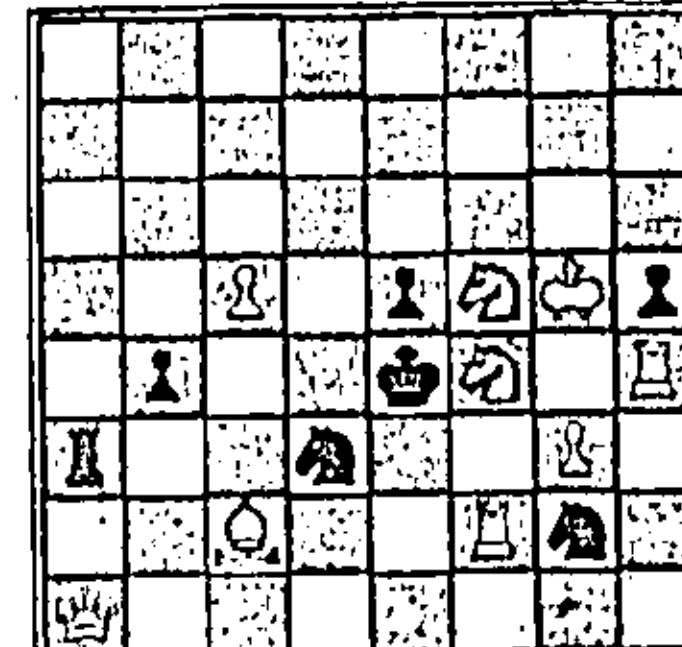
Oxygen Valve

A war-developed oxygen valve used by wounded airmen at high altitude is now available for treatment of polio victims and other respiratory disease patients.

The new instrument is known as the proton beam. The dusters report that experiments indicate that the instrument has "vast potentialities in the field of inhalational therapy—the treatment of chest ailments by the breathing of drugs, such as penicillin dust."

CHESS PROBLEM

By J. A. SCHIFFMAN
Black, 7 pieces.



White, 9 pieces.

Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. Kt—R4, any; 2. R, B, or Kt mates.

YOUR BIRTHDAY

By STELLA

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

BORN today, you have a number of rather conflicting characteristics which will make life difficult for you unless you learn to understand yourself thoroughly. You like to pretend that you are quite unemotional but, actually, the opposite is more true. Loyal to close friends, you make few intimate associates although you may have many casual acquaintances. Guard against envy and jealousy for they can do your future more harm than almost anything else. You are a relentless enemy, and those who harm you may have cause to remember it!

There is another side to your nature, however, which is known only to your closest and dearest. Your ties of home and family are very strong. Your loyalty in this regard makes you self-sacrificing and even over-indulgent at times. Those who

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Definitely a poor day for the emotions, so be on your guard lest they betray you into a difficult situation.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 21)—A romantic day for you, but make sure you know your own heart and don't make an error in judgment.

ARIES (Mar. 22-Apr. 20)—An excellent day with good fortune appearing to be on your side if you are aggressive and positive.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—An active day, especially for romance and matters of the fair sex. Get a permanent or buy a new hat!

GEMINI (May 22-June 22)—Excellent trends for courtship and marriage. Things should go well in the home, too. Expect happiness.

CANCER (June 23-July 23)—Be considerate of others, especially those of the fair sex, to avoid unhappiness. Expect the unexpected.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Appointments may turn out for a great deal today. Be well groomed if you have a business or social engagement.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 22)—This morning, follow up yesterday's opportunity and develop it to its utmost. Rest and relax this afternoon.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—Good all along the line, both on the home front and at the office. Make the most of all potentials for success.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Impulse can cause trouble, so think carefully before you act to avoid possible accident.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—Romance appears in the foreground of today's activity. Follow up yesterday's leads, and develop them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—All large projects, especially connected with the earth's mineral products are well favoured now.

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

Pandi Kristo, Koci Xoxo, Idris Williams, Aaro Unaitalo, Leon Mauvais, Alice Sportiase, Chryssa Hadjivassiliou, Kim Tubong, Pham Van Khao, Teresa Noco Longo, Harry Snitcher, Konstantinos Theos.

TWELVE more red-bearded daisies?

No. Names from a review in the Economist of a "Directory of Five Hundred Leading Communists of the Eastern Hemisphere." It is more exotic than the "List of Hunting-donshire Cabmen," and equally well informed. I admit that Stringer, E. J. (see Vol. III: R. to T.) seems very tame beside Koci Xoxo or Pham-Van-Khao. One important omission is Mrs. Boldkeskoka Viopatch, the Vampire of Snodj.

In passing

THE revelation that an electric iron is not likely to interfere with planes at a distance of more than one hundred yards has set a problem in civil defence. It is thought that enormous trons and vacuum cleaners, massed in private houses, might be more effective in dealing with raiding planes. But such methods might interfere with radio programmes, so that you could either be fined for interfering with your neighbour's entertainment, or for not interfering with hostile raiders. Or both. What about an enormous magnet erected on the coast to attract the steel cores of Communist air-hostesses? Or would that interfere with television stations?

Hogwasch

F million pounds from the Government and another couple from the City, we are in for a six-hour film about the childhood of Beethoven, with little Freddie Fungus as the composer. We shall see him playing his first composition, the variations on a march by Dressler, the assistant Mozart, but what we shall hear, of course, is the Cuban pianist, Estrada Pechardo.

Today's dish

(by Mrs. Wheelstuffer, author of "O Fried Sole Mio!")

GIBELOTTES de Snock a l'Huile Foie de Morue.
Open a tin of etc., etc., as for Beetroot-Sausage Pudding.

More Demand For US Leaf Tobacco

Washington, Jan. 31.—World demand for United States leaf tobacco today is higher than before the war, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

If the present demand continues, the Department said, U. S. producers will have to increase their output to bolster depleted stocks.

Despite the fact that the world's overall tobacco production, forecast at over 7,000,000,000 lbs. for the 12 months ending June 1949, is in approximate balance with the world's effective demand, it is becoming increasingly apparent that world stocks of U. S. leaf are dangerously low, officials added.

Anglo-Danish

Trade Pact Loophole

Leeds, Jan. 31.—British wool exporters have protested to the Board of Trade against a loophole in the Anglo-Danish trade agreement by which textiles not manufactured in Britain are being admitted to Denmark under the British quota, according to the Yorkshire Post.

Czechoslovakia was reported to be selling woolen goods to Denmark in this way by exporting textiles invoiced from Britain in sterling at prices with which British exporters found it difficult to compete, the paper said.

Britain was not in a strong bargaining position as Denmark could sell her foodstuffs at higher prices than Britain was prepared to pay, the report said. But Britain was Denmark's traditional market and Danish official circles "seem to recognize that exports to the United Kingdom are the best long-term policy."—Reuter.

Production of leaf in 1948 in the Netherlands East Indies, the Philippines and Japan, was far below prewar level. The potential demand for flue-cured leaf is far above prewar. Limited exchange and internal political disturbances now prevent increased imports.

In Australia and New Zealand, stocks are very low in relation to consumption because of increasing financial difficulties.

South African surplus producers are benefiting from the dollar shortage in importing countries and are increasing production to meet the demand, especially from Great Britain.—Associated Press.

N.Y. FOREIGN EXCHANGE

	Closing Rates Jan. 31, 1949
Argentina (Peso) (Official)	2303
Argentina (Peso) (Unofficial)	322-54
Australia	1430
Brazil	202-15
Belgium	60-04
Canada	52-15
Chile	232-50
Denmark	603-15
France	302-4
India	1430
Mexico	4-02
New Zealand	60-10
Peru	60-10
Portugal	403-14
South Africa	218-15
Sweden	378-3
Switzerland	232-50
Uruguay	3010
Venezuela	377-5
Netherlands	232-50
Bahia	4700
Hongkong	232-50
Singapore	407-5
Shanghai	—United Press.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, registered articles and parcel posts close 30 minutes earlier than the ordinary mails. Close before 10 a.m. registered and parcel posts close at 8 p.m. on the previous day. Mails are closed at New York Central Post Office, half an hour earlier than the GPO closing times.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Closing Times by Air

Swatow, Amoy, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking and Hsinchow, 3:30 p.m.
Shanghai, 4:30 p.m.
Manila, Honolulu, USA and Canada, 5 p.m.
Air Parcel Posts for Manila, Honolulu and USA, (CPO) 4:30 p.m.; (GPO) 5 p.m.
Ordinary Air Mail (Printed Matter, Samples and Small Packet Post) for Manila, Guam, Honolulu and USA, (CPO) 4:30 p.m.; (GPO) 5 p.m.
Bangkok, 4:30 p.m. (reg); 5 p.m. (ord).
Closing Times by Sea

Manila, Aden, Egypt & Marseilles, 3 p.m.
Shanghai, 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2
Closing Times by Air

Swatow, Amoy, 8:30 a.m. (reg); 9 a.m. (ord).
Shanghai, 9 a.m. (reg); 9:30 a.m. (ord).
Manila, 12:30 p.m.
Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, Amoy, Taipei, Swatow and Foochow, 1:30 p.m.
Closing Times by Sea

Foochow, 10 a.m.
Japan, 10 a.m.
Swatow, Saigon and Bangkok, 1 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3
Closing Times by Air

Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Bahrain, Alexandria (Nafar), Johannesburg and Harare (via Alexandria), Rome and London, (CPO) 4:30 p.m.; (GPO) 5 p.m.
Bangkok, Singapore, Manila, Colombo, Sydney and Auckland, 5 p.m.
Japan, 5 p.m.
Closing Times by Sea

Rafavia, Sourabaya and Macassar, Noon.
Straits, 1 p.m.
Swatow, 1 p.m.
USA, Canada, Central and South America via San Francisco (No Parcel for Canada), 3 p.m.
Amoy, Hsinchow, Peking via Hsinchow, 2 p.m.

RED RYDER



High Price



BY FRED HARMAN



IT'S A DEAL





POSTER GIRL AT HOME—Linda Brown, 4, poster girl of the 1949 "March of Dimes" campaign for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, goes into the tub after a day of official visits. A victim of infantile paralysis a year and a half ago, Linda was cured through the Foundation.

New British Navy Is In Process Of Creation

RADICAL INNOVATIONS

London, Jan. 31.—A new British Navy with all latest developments in radio-guided missiles and jet propulsion is being created by scientists and engineers moving towards use of atomic power.

Reciprocal Commonwealth defence plans, already well under way, have allocated a total of £30,000,000 for research and development according to official estimates.

Naval strategists foresee radical innovations in design made essential by potentialities of atomic bombs and ships navigated and fought entirely by electronic devices.

Russians Wont Return POWs

Strike Unreasonable Attitude

London, Jan. 31.—The Soviet reaction to a British query about the return of German prisoners of war had been "not untypical," Mr. Hector McNeil, Minister of State, told the House of Commons today.

"It contests the accuracy of our statement, makes some counter-accusations—completely without foundation—and declines to enter into negotiations," he said in reply to a question.

The full Soviet reply had not yet been received at the Foreign Office, he added.

Asked if all the evidence did not show that there were made more than 200,000 German prisoners in Soviet territory, Mr. McNeil replied: "I should think that would be a conservative statement."

STILL HOPEFUL

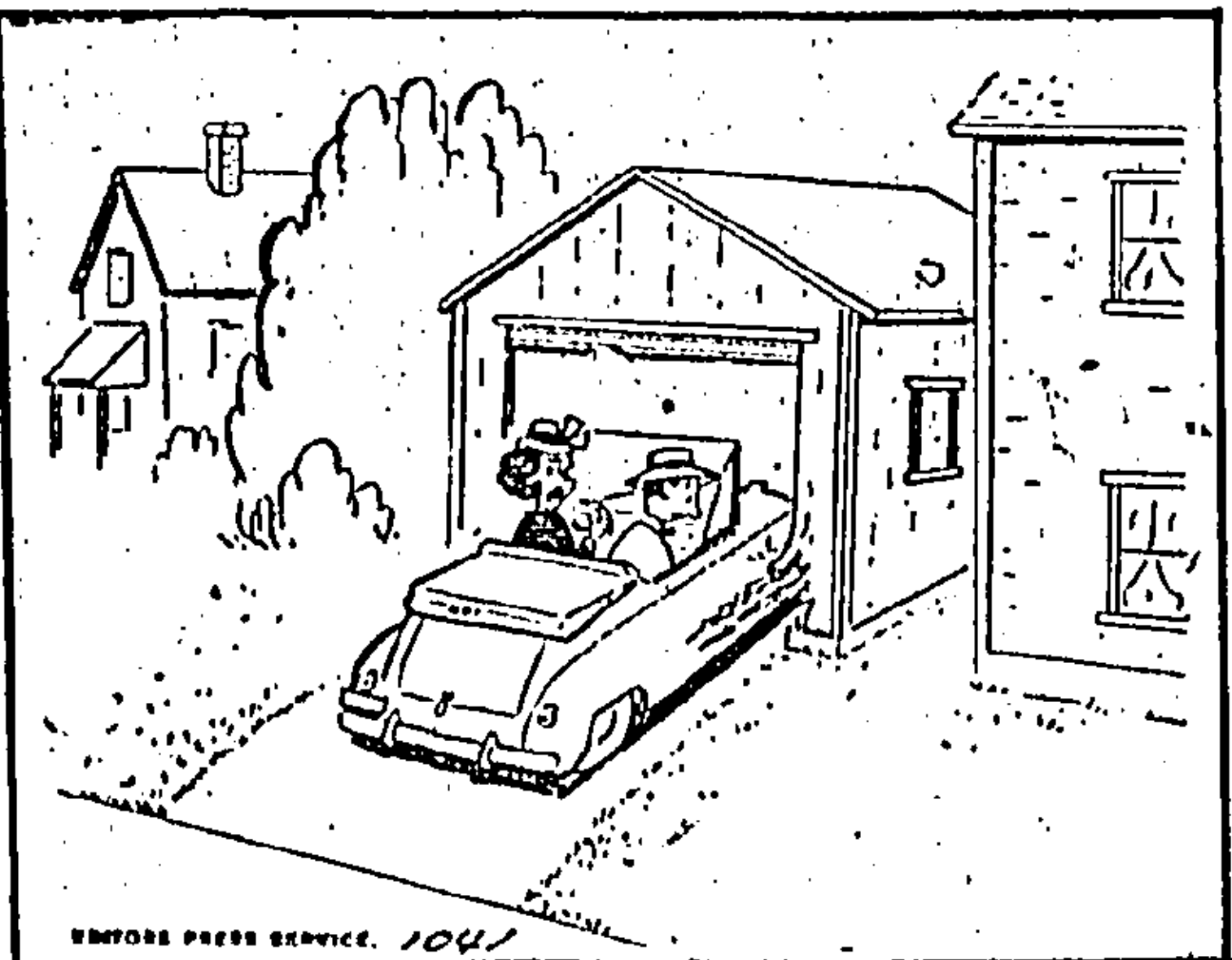
Mr. Nigel Birch, Conservative, suggested that he should publish photographs showing the physical condition of the prisoners returned from Russia.

Mr. McNeil replied, however: "We are still hopeful that the Soviet Government may prove reasonable on this subject, although their first reaction has not been of that kind. I would not like to commit myself to the suggestion that we should publish photographs, although I agree that the physical condition and age in many cases has been most regrettable."

The British note to the Soviet Union said Britain had repatriated all her German prisoners. It asked if Russia had done likewise in accordance with the agreement reached at the Moscow Council of Foreign Ministers in 1947 that all German prisoners in the hands of the occupying powers should be sent back to Germany by December last.—Reuter.

Bandits Rob Bank

Miami Beach, Florida, Jan. 31.—Bandits today held up the Metropolitan Bank on the fashionable Lincoln Road and escaped with an estimated \$70,000.—United Press.



"Milton, isn't that your side that's rubbing?"

Norway Reacts To Soviet Note On Atlantic Pact

STRONG PRESS COMMENT

Stockholm, Jan. 31.—Increased military preparedness was urged by three Stockholm newspapers today following the Soviet note to Norway demanding a clarification of her attitude towards a North Atlantic Pact.

Demanding "swift measures," the papers all regarded the note as signifying a shifting of the cold war to the Scandinavian peninsula.

The Soviet note was handed to the Norwegian Foreign Office in Oslo on Saturday. It warned Norway not to join the North Atlantic Pact reminding Norwegians of their common border with Russia.

The delivery of the note coincided with the failure in Oslo of efforts to form a Scandinavian military alliance which would have kept Norway out of the Atlantic Pact.

Most Stockholm newspapers predicted that the Soviet action would hasten rather than delay Norway's joining the Atlantic Alliance.

Stockholm newspapers also stressed that the failure of efforts to force on a Scandinavian Pact had

resulted in a serious deterioration in Scandinavia's position.

"The picture of a divided Scandinavia, such as is now emerging, can only be attractive to a great power in our immediate vicinity," the Liberal afternoon paper, Expressen, said in an editorial.

Describing the Russian note as an attempt to frighten Norway to keep clear of the West, the paper urged a thorough overhaul without delay of military supply and political dispositions.

The Conservative newspaper, Svenska Dagbladet, said that Stalin was shaking his fist at Norway while at the same time waving his other hand in a friendly gesture toward the Western powers.

The paper added that the shadow of big power politics was hanging over Sweden and that this constituted a serious challenge to the country's preparedness.

The Liberal Stockholm's Tidningen said that the Soviet note implied a shifting of the cold war to the Scandinavian Peninsula, adding that the situation now required increased alertness and greater efforts on Sweden's part to look after herself with all the resources at her disposal.—Associated Press.

WAITING TO SHARE A FORTUNE

Winsted, Connecticut, Jan. 31.—If 15 missing heirs to a mystery fortune left by a millionaire Jewish salvage collector, Benjamin Epstein, are not found by February 7 two Jews living in Palestine and a woman living in Montevideo will share equally \$200,000 of the estate.

The three—Abram Gopstein and Sora Gopstein Guberman of Haifa and Molly Arbog—are children of Epstein's brother, a native of Bialystok, Poland.

Ultimately, at a date not yet fixed, if the other heirs are still not traced, Abram Gopstein, Sora Gopstein Guberman and Molly Arbog stand to share the entire estate.

Epstein died here six years ago at the age of 63. His friends were startled to learn he had amassed an estate worth more than one million dollars.

His will directed that his estate—\$800,000 after taxes and death duties—be divided into five equal shares and then shared equally between his 18 nephews and nieces.

Only three of his heirs have been traced after a long and expensive search by his executors.

The executors sought a judgment from the Probate Court to declare all other heirs legally dead, but the judge refused and ordered the search to be continued.—Reuter.

Throw In Lot With Reuters

London, Jan. 31.—The Indian newspapers became joint owners of Reuters in partnership with the newspapers of the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand from tomorrow, February 1.

This marks the conclusion of the agreement negotiated last summer in London between Reuters and a delegation of Indian newspaper proprietors. The new partnership means that there would be an Indian member of the Reuters Board and an Indian trustee of Reuters.

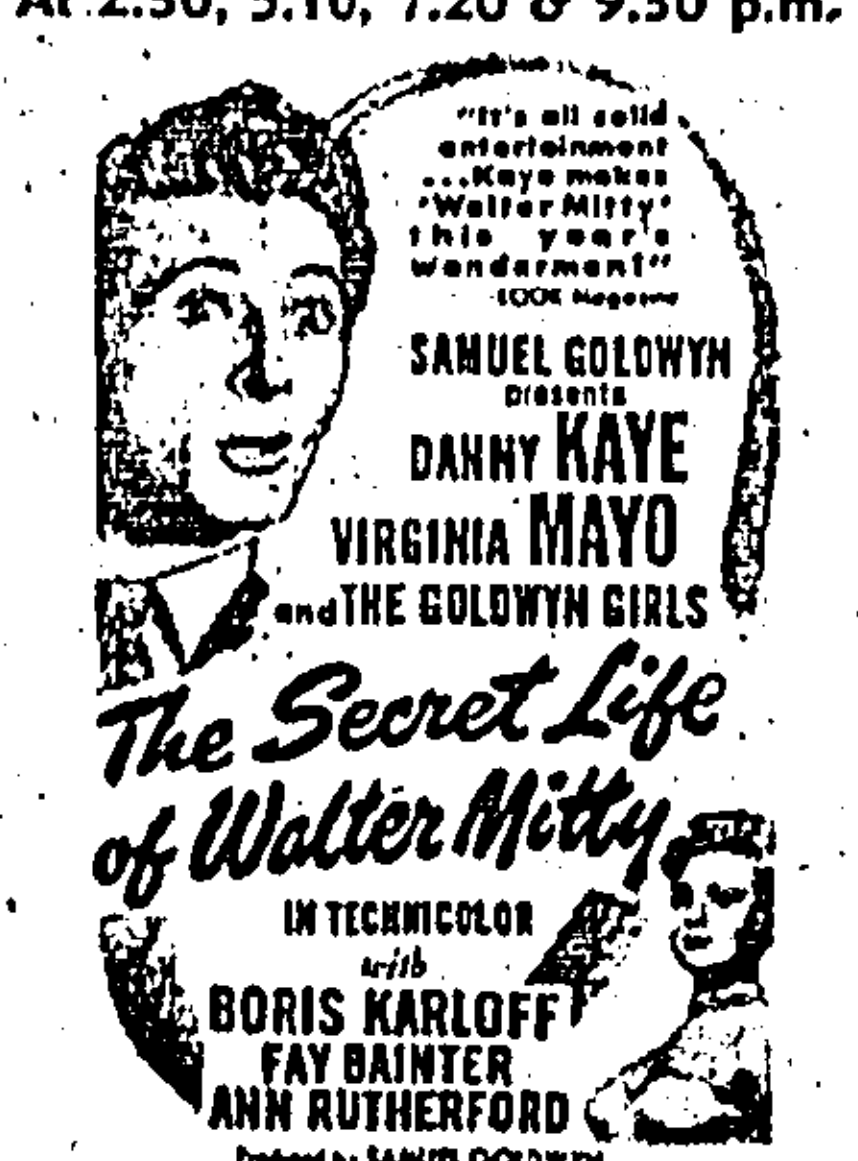
Lord Goddard, the Lord Chief Justice, has given his consent to the necessary changes in the Reuter Trust.

On March 7, a Reuter mission is flying to India for the inauguration of the National Indian news agency, co-operatively owned by the Indian newspapers under the Title Press Trust of India, Limited.

The mission will consist of Lord Layton, Chairman of the News Chronicle and Star newspapers, Mr. Malcolm Graham, Chairman of the Express and Star Wolverhampton, Mr. R. A. Henderson, Chairman of the Australian Associated Press, and Mr. C. J. Chancellor, General Manager of Reuter.—Reuter.



17, Hankow Road, Kowloon
TO-DAY
At 2.30, 5.10, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.



New Assistant Sec. Of State

Washington, Jan. 31.—President Truman today nominated Mr. Dean Rusk, Director of the State Department's Office of United Nations Affairs, to succeed Mr. Norman Armour as Assistant Secretary of State.

The State Department said that in addition to the supervision of the work of the Office of United Nations Affairs, Mr. Rusk's duties would include assisting the Under-Secretary in co-ordinating the work of the Office of Far Eastern Affairs and the Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs.

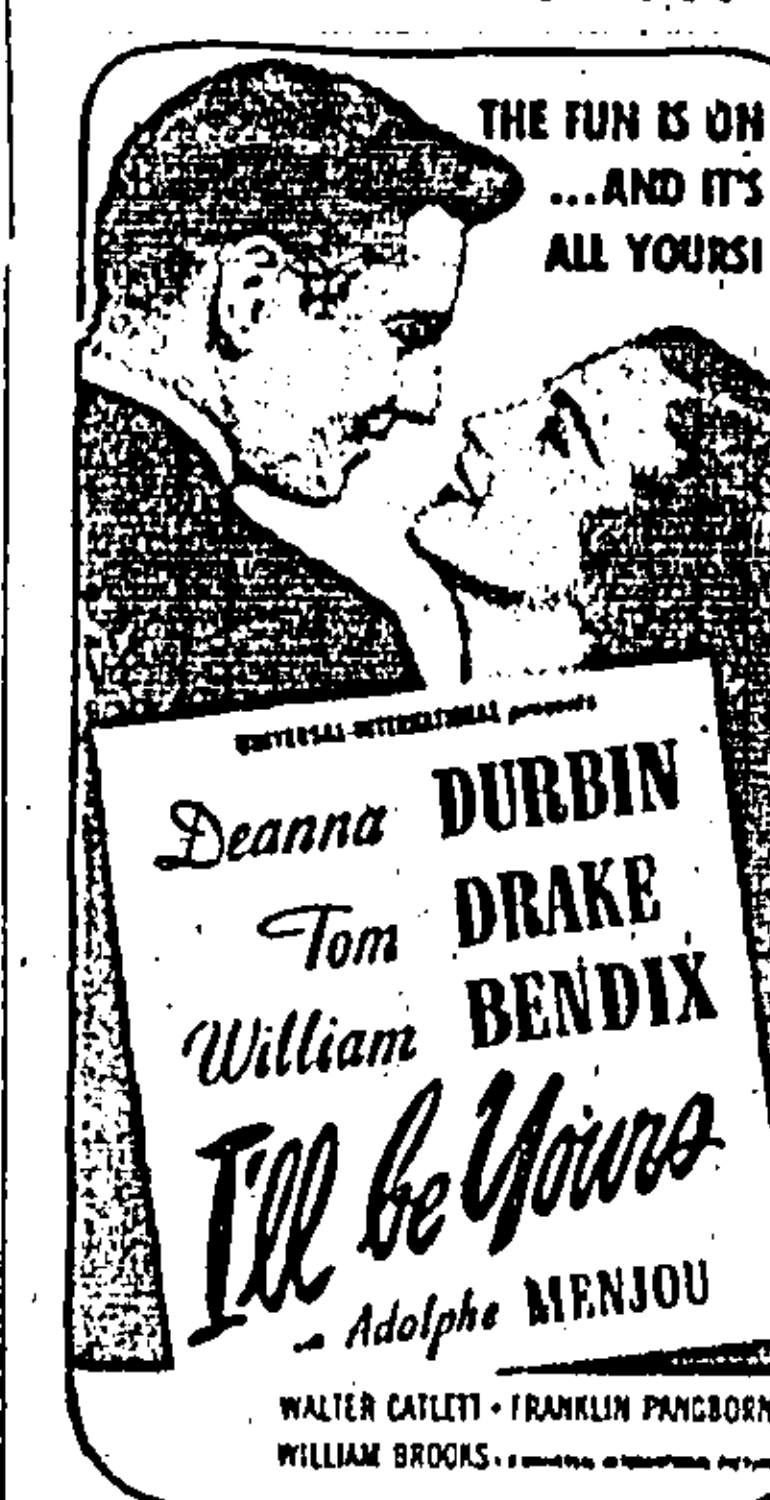
Mr. Rusk, who will be 40 next week, was appointed Assistant Chief of the State Department's Division of International Security Affairs in 1946, after six years in the Army as Deputy Chief of the United States Armed Forces in South East Asia during the war.

Mr. Norman Armour resigned as Assistant Secretary of State last June.—Reuter.

POCKET CARTOON by OSBERT LANCASTER



COMING SOON

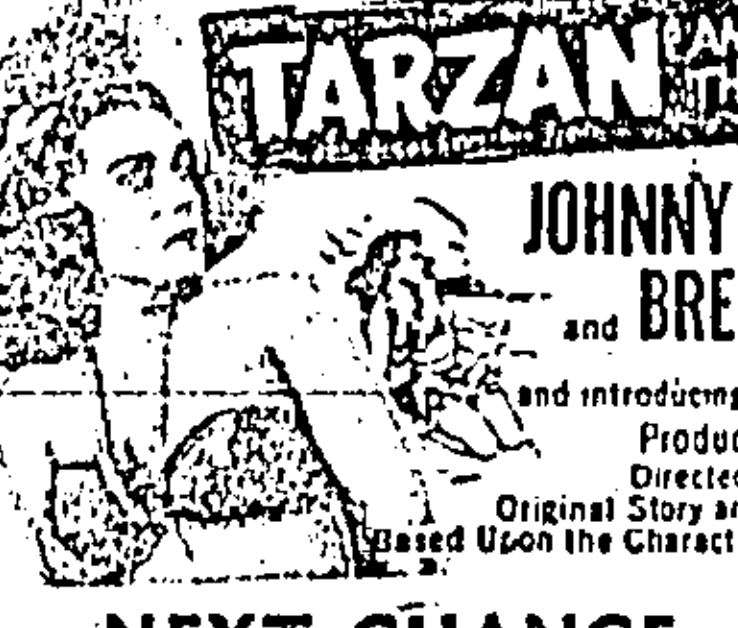


SHOWING MAJESTIC At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

BARBARIC RITUALS!... PAGAN SPLENDORS!... SAVAGE THRILLS!...

—with Tarzan on a rampage of revenge against Balu, villainous man-god!

SOL LESSER presents EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS'



NEXT CHANGE: "TEMPTATION"

ORIENTAL AIR-CONDITIONED

TAKE ANY EASTERN TRAM CAR OR HAPPY VALLEY BUS
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THE HAPPIEST MUSICAL FILM EVER MADE

The Happiest Musical Ever Made is

IRVING BERLIN'S



JUDY GARLAND-FRED ASTAIRE
LAWFORD MILLER from MGM

Commencing To-Morrow: "CORONER CREEK"

TO-MORROW MORNING SHOW AT 12.30
Another New Film Showing for the First Time!
A VERY FUNNY & INTERESTING COMEDY-MUSICAL!



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Published daily (afternoon).
Price, 20 cents per edition.
Subscription: \$650 per month.
Postage: China and Macao, \$1.00 per month; U.K. and other countries, \$1.50 per month.
News contributions, always welcome, should be addressed to the Editor, business communications and advertisements to the General Manager.
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PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

Copies of photographs taken by the South China Morning Post and Hong Kong Telegraph Staff Photographers are on view in the

Morning Post Building.

ORDERS BOOKED.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Advertisers are requested to note that not less than 24 hours notice prior to the day of publication should be given for all commercial display advertisements, change of copy etc. Notices and classified advertisements will be received up to 10 a.m. and urgent notices until noon on day of issue. Saturdays not later than 0930.

FOR SALE

ONE Deluxe space heater with automatic thermostat, very efficient, sacrifice \$225.00. Also American lawn mower, \$150.00. Branson No. 222, Prince Edward Road, Kowloon.

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